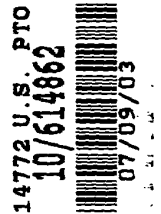


**PATENT**

Docket No. 29284/595

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450



SIR:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (b) is a continuation of patent application number 09/819,636 of:

Inventor : Yasuo INOUE  
Serial No. : (Con. of Serial No. 09/819,636)  
Filed : 9 July 2003  
For : EXTERNAL STORAGE SUBSYSTEM

Enclosed are:

1. Copy of Declaration/Power of Attorney (2 pages);
2. Associate Power of Attorney;
3. 15 sheets of specification, 8 sheets of claims, 1 sheet of abstract;
4. 6 sheets of drawings;
5. Information Disclosure Statement, form PTO-1449.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 11-0600 in the amount of \$1,344.00 representing the fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16(a), (b) and (c).

The application has been assigned from the Inventors to Hitachi, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan, which assignment has been recorded in application Serial No. 07/984,763 on 3 Dec. 1992, at Reel 6349, Frame 800-801.

A certified copy of Japanese priority application No. 03-322965 filed in Japan on 6 December 1991, for which priority is claimed under 35 USC §119, was filed in application Serial No. 07/984,763.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

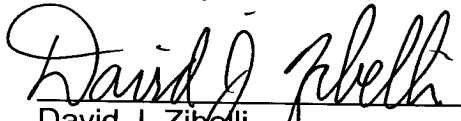
For	No. Filed	No. Extra	Rate	Fee
Basic Fee .....				\$750.00
Total Claims .....	53 - 20 =	33	\$ 18.00	\$594.00
Independent Claims ..	1 - 3 =	0	\$ 84.00	\$ -0-
TOTAL FEE .....				<u>\$1,344.00</u>

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the total fee of \$1,344.00 and any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Commissioner is further authorized to charge payment of any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 or any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 for presentation of extra claims during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A copy of this sheet is enclosed for that purpose.

Please address all future correspondence to the address shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
David J. Zibelli  
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Dated: 9 July 2003

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